

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for recording media, said method comprising the steps of:

5 receiving at least one media stream;

storing at least a portion of said media stream in at least one personal video recording

("PVR") media server;

coupling a plurality of clients, capable of displaying said media stream, to said PVR

media server;

10 generating a first buffer position to identify a location within said media stream for
playback of said media stream at a first client; and

generating a second buffer position to identify a location within said media stream for
playback of said media stream at a second client, said second buffer position
being independent from said first buffer position.

15 2. The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising the steps of.

transferring said media stream to a first client, so as to deliver said media stream
using said first buffer position; and

20 transferring said media stream to a second client, so as to deliver said media stream
using said second buffer position.

3. The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising the step of generating
more than two independent buffer positions to identify locations within said media stream for
more than two clients.

4. The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the step of receiving at least one media stream comprises the step of receiving at least one television signal.

5. The method as set forth in claim 4, wherein the step of receiving at least one television signal comprises the step of receiving a plurality of television signals in a single PVR-media server.

6. The method as set forth in claim 4, wherein the step of receiving a plurality of television signals comprises the step of receiving at least one television signal in each of a plurality of PVR-media servers.

7. The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the step of storing at least a portion of said media stream comprises the step of buffering said media stream for an amount of time when receiving said media stream.

15

8. The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
receiving input from a user at a client to select a buffer position of another client;
displaying, at said client, a list of clients that maintain a buffer position for said media stream;

20

receiving input from a user to select a buffer position; and
transferring said media stream to said client, so as to deliver said media stream using said buffer position for said client selected.

25

9. The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
receiving input from a user at a first client to pause said media stream;
halting said first buffer position for said first client in response to said input;

receiving input from a user at a second client to select a buffer position of another client;

displaying, at said second client, a list of clients that maintain a buffer position for said media stream including said first buffer position;

5 receiving input from a user to select said first buffer position; and

transferring said media stream to said second client, so as to deliver said media stream using said first buffer position.

10. The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

10 generating a write buffer position to identify a location within said media stream for recordation of said media stream; and

maintaining a relative position between said first or second buffer position and said write buffer position, so as to set boundary conditions.

15 11. A PVR-media server comprising:

at least one input for receiving at least one media stream;

storage medium for storing at least a portion of said media stream;

at least one output for coupling a plurality of clients, capable of displaying said media stream, to said PVR media server;

20 said PVR-media server for generating a first position to identify a location within said media stream for a first client and for generating a second buffer position to identify a location within said media stream for a second client, said second buffer position being independent from said first buffer position.

25 12. The PVR-media server as set forth in claim 11, further comprising a network for transferring said media stream to a first client, so as to deliver said media stream using

said first buffer position, and for transferring said media stream to a second client, so as to deliver said media stream using said second buffer position.

13. The PVR-media server as set forth in claim 11, further comprising more than two independent buffer positions to identify locations of said media stream for more than two clients.

14. The PVR-media server as set forth in claim 11, wherein said input for receiving at least one television signal.

15. The PVR-media server as set forth in claim 11, wherein said input for receiving a plurality of television signals.

16. The PVR-media server as set forth in claim 15, further comprising a plurality of PVR-media servers for receiving at least one television signal.

17. The PVR-media server as set forth in claim 11, further comprising a buffer for storing said media stream for an amount of time when receiving said media stream.

18. The PVR-media server as set forth in claim 11, further comprising software for receiving input from a user at a client to select a buffer position of another client, for displaying, at said client, a list of clients that maintain a buffer position for said media stream, for receiving input from a user to select a buffer position, and for transferring said media stream to said client, so as to deliver said media stream using said buffer position for said client selected.

19. The PVR-media server as set forth in claim 11, further comprising software for receiving input from a user at a first client to pause said media stream, for halting said first buffer position for said first client in response to said input, for receiving input from a user at a second client to select a buffer position of another client, for displaying, at said second client, a list of clients that maintain a buffer position for said media stream including said first buffer position, for receiving input from a user to select said first buffer position, and for transferring said media stream to said second client, so as to deliver said media stream using said first buffer position.

20. The PVR-media server as set forth in claim 11, further comprising software for generating a write buffer position to identify a location within said media stream for recordation of said media stream, and for maintaining a relative position between said first or second buffer position and said write buffer position, so as to set boundary conditions.

21. A system comprising:

a plurality of clients, coupled to said PVR media server, for displaying said media stream;

at least one PVR-media server comprising:

one input for receiving at least one media stream;

storage medium for storing at least a portion of said media stream;

media controller for generating a first buffer position to identify a location within said media stream for a first client and for generating a second buffer position to identify a location within said media stream for a second client, said second buffer position being independent from said first buffer position; and

network, coupling said PVR-media server to said clients, for delivering said media stream to a first client using said first buffer position, and for delivering said media stream to a second client using said second buffer position.